

trunk 8 ft. from the ground, 9 ft. [cf. H. A. Dutton's note in *Madroño* 1(5):97-98, 1922]. A few other less famous California specimens of *Quercus lobata* are as large or larger than the Hooker Oak. Mr. Metcalfe kindly made his file of data on such trees available for study, and the following information on three of them was culled by Dr. H. L. Mason:

The Henley Oak on Wolf Hop Company Ranch, Round Valley, Mendocino County: DBH 8.65 feet, height 145 feet, first fork at 20 feet (1937 measurements).

The Bower's Ranch Oak near East Biggs south of Oroville. DBH 11' 8" in August 1955.

Tree one-half mile south of Guinda School, Yolo County: DBH 103", height 100 feet.—KINGSLEY R. STERN, Department of Biological Sciences, Chico State College, Chico, California.

ETHEL BAILEY HIGGINS.—Born in Vassalboro, Maine, August 10, 1866; died in San Diego, California, March 9, 1963.

Mrs. Higgins, as a little girl, learned about the wildflowers which grew in the pastures of her grandfather's farm, and continued that interest while a student at the Maine Wesleyan Seminary and Female College. In 1961 she returned as a special honored alumna for the 75th anniversary of her graduation at Kents Hill School, Kents Hill, Maine, which is the descendent of the college. Coming to California as a young woman, Mrs. Higgins opened a photographic studio in the village called Hollywood. Exploring the Hollywood hills and San Fernando Valley in her horse-drawn buggy, she collected wild flowers to photograph, building up a collection of 300 plant portraits. It was in order to properly identify these that she took up the study of botany. Mrs. Higgins was a resident of San Diego after 1915, when she and her inventor husband opened a foundry and machine shop there. Botany remained an avocation for many years, but in 1931 Mrs. Higgins published a popular book, "Our Native Cacti," and in 1934 joined the staff of the Botany Department of the San Diego Natural History Museum. She was always interested in the work of early botanical collectors and had just completed a manuscript of the history of the botanical exploration of Baja California at the time of her death. She also had a strong interest in Mexico—its culture, history, and art, as well as its flora. In 1952 she realized an ambition of many years, and collected in the Cape region of Baja California, thus at 86 years of age starting an active program of travel in Mexico, which included visits to Mexico City, Oaxaca, and many other areas.—GEORGE E. LINDSAY, San Diego Natural History Museum.

CALIFORNIA BOTANICAL SOCIETY.—Lest it be said that proper attention is not paid to the passage of time and the occasions thus generated, it should be noted that the year 1963 marks the 50th anniversary of the founding of the California Botanical Society. The Society through its activities and its journal, *Madroño*, has contributed to the development of botany not only in California, but also outside of California. It is very difficult to single out individual and specific contributions, but one can point with pride to the papers of the first two editors of *Madroño*, Willis Linn Jepson and Herbert L. Mason.